Claims 1-2 and 4-10 are all the claims pending in the application. Claim 1 has been amended.

Entry of the above amendments is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2 and 4-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Borland et al. (US 5,474,104).

Claims 1-2 and 4-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Beaver et al. (US 5,149,105) in view of Borland et al. (US 5,474,104).

Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Borland et al. (US 5,474,104) in view of Floh et al. (US 2004/0045605).

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections.

It is respectfully submitted that Borland does not disclose the claimed halogen-free resin. Thus, Borland does not anticipate claim 1 nor make up for the deficiencies of Beaver.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-2 and 4-10 are patentable over the cited art.

Reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-2 and 4-10 is respectfully requested.

If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114(c)

U.S. Application No.: 10/554,705

Attorney Docket No.: Q75540

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

Keiko K. Takagi

Registration No. 47,121

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC

Telephone: (202) 293-7060 Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

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